



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 04R00296	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416																								
International application No. PCT/JP2004/005438	International filing date (day/month/year) 15.04.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 17.04.2003																								
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC																										
Applicant SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA																										
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of <u>27</u> sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table border="0"><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. I</td><td>Basis of the report</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. II</td><td>Priority</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. III</td><td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. IV</td><td>Lack of unity of invention</td></tr><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. V</td><td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VI</td><td>Certain documents cited</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VII</td><td>Certain defects in the international application</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VIII</td><td>Certain observations on the international application</td></tr></table>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report																									
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer																									
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.																									

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/005438

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1, 2, 13-39 as originally filed/furnished

pages* 3-12 received by this Authority on 15.02.2005

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the claims:

nos. 3, 5, 8, 9, 13, 16-19, 26 as originally filed/furnished

nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

nos.* 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 10-12, 14, 15, 20-25 received by this Authority on 15.02.2005

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the drawings:

sheets fig. 1-10 as originally filed/furnished

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
1. Statement	
Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-26</u> YES Claims _____ NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-26</u> YES Claims _____ NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-26</u> YES Claims _____ NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)	
	Document 1: JP 2001-285736 A (Canon Inc.), 12 October 2001, entire text, all drawings (Family: none)
	Document 2: JP 2001-292381 A (Canon Inc.), 19 October 2001, entire text, all drawings (Family: none)
	Document 3: JP 11-275477 A (Mitsubishi Digital Electronics America. Inc.), 08 October 1999, entire text, all drawings & CA 2258823 A1
	Document 4: JP 8-181926 A (Sony Corp.), 12 July 1996, entire text, all drawings & US 5754258 A1 & EP 697789 A1
	Document 5: JP 2002-112138 A (Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd.), 12 April 2002, entire text, all drawings & US 2002/40481 A1
	Document 6: JP 2002-354064 A (Sony Corp.), 16 December 2002, entire text, all drawings (Family: none)
	Document 7: JP 2002-165148 A (Sony Corp.), 07 June 2002, entire text, all drawings (Family: none)

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
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Claims 1 to 6, 20, 22, 24 and 26

Documents 1 to 7 cannot be said to disclose the feature of concealing the image disturbance once the switching data that is transmitted from the center device has been received; furthermore the feature in question cannot be said to have been obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Claims 7 to 10, 21, 23 and 25

Documents 1 to 7 do not disclose the feature of concealing the image disturbance that is caused by the image switching operations of the center device, and cannot be said to disclose the feature of setting the point in time when the image disturbance means will terminate the concealment process based on the first time stamp that is generated when the center device encodes the aforementioned image data that has been switched; furthermore, the features in question cannot be said to have been obvious to a person skilled in the art.

Claims 11 to 13, 14 to 17, 18, 19 and 23

Documents 1 to 7 cannot be said to disclose the feature of "acquiring switching data, which expresses information pertaining to the operation by which the image switching means switches the image data, and then transmitting the acquired switching data to the aforementioned display device" in the center device that is set forth in claim 11, or the feature of "acquiring the first time stamp, which is generated when the encoding means encodes the image data that was switched by the image switching means, and then transmitting the acquired first time stamp to the display device" in the

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Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

center device that is set forth in claim 14; furthermore,
the features in question cannot be said to have been
obvious to a person skilled in the art.